

REMARKS

Claims 12, 19, 37-49, 58 and 62-98 are canceled. Claims 1, 13, 15, 18 and 20 have been amended. Claims 1-11, 13-18, 20-36, 50-57 and 59-61 are pending and under examination.

Applicants note that the subject matter of claims 6-11, 14, 18, 19, 26, 27 and 29-36 were objected to as depending from rejected base claims, and that claims 50-56, 57 and 59-61 were allowed. Accordingly, Applicants have elected to amend the pending claims in an attempt to place them all in condition for allowance, as follows:

Claim 1 was amended to introduce the subject matter of dependent claims 6 and 9 in the alternative. This is believed to place each of claims 1-11 in condition for allowance.

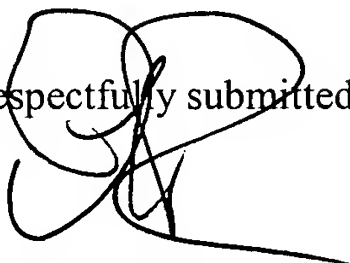
Next, claim 18 was placed into independent form, and the dependencies of various claims amended so as to place claims 13-18 in condition for allowance.

Next, claim 20 was amended to introduce the subject matter of claims 29 or 30 in the alternative, so as to place claims 20-36 in condition for allowance.

Applicants have addressed the objection to the specification and the § 112, 2nd paragraph rejections by appropriate amendment.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing it is believed that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,


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